



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

7 OCTOBER 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Imperial Beach – Smuggler Who Abandoned Boat, Leading to Two Deaths, Gets Sentence

(U) A federal judge sentenced Julio Cesar Murillo-Arce, 42, to nearly seven-years in prison in connection with the deaths of two people he illegally brought across the border in a small boat earlier this year. Murillo-Arce abandoned the vessel in the cold, predawn hours of 3 February off the coast of Imperial Beach, leaving six people stranded in high surf. The boat capsized shortly thereafter, and only four of the undocumented immigrants made it to shore. Murillo-Arce pleaded guilty in June to four counts involving the smuggling of undocumented immigrants, including two counts of attempted smuggling resulting in death.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

(U) Menlo Park – Facebook to Remove QAnon Group's Presence from Platform

(U) Facebook pledged to remove any Facebook pages, groups and Instagram accounts aligned with the QAnon conspiracy group. Until now, Facebook only said it would take action against QAnon activity containing discussions about potential violence. That action, which began in mid-August, came after sharp criticism that it had allowed the extremist conspiracy movement to spread largely unchecked on its platforms. In the month since taking that action, Facebook removed more than 1,500 QAnon-related pages and groups for discussions of potential violence and more than 6,500 pages and groups tied to more than 300 Militarized Social Movements.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [FOX5 News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Agents Find \$1 Million in Drugs Hidden Inside Car

(U) San Diego – US Border Patrol agents seized more than \$1 million in cocaine and fentanyl found hidden inside a man's car. A US Customs and Border Protection spokesperson said a K-9 got a hit on a 21-year-old man's BMW X5 on 4 October as he pulled up to the Interstate 8 checkpoint around 4 AM. Agents searched the car and found 36 packages behind the driver's side front tire. The brick-shaped packages were wrapped in tinfoil and tested positive for cocaine and fentanyl. They had an estimated street value of \$1,056,400. The driver and drugs were turned over to the DEA for further investigation while Border Patrol agents seized the car.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [FOX5 News](#)

(U) Mexico – Cartel Turf Battles Lead to Violence in Two Northern States

(U) Mexico City – Authorities in Mexico said Tuesday that 13 bodies were found stuffed into two SUVs in northern Mexico, while a shooting attack on a funeral in another state killed five and wounded four. The violence appears to be part of bloody turf battles involving the Jalisco cartel that has left dozens dead in recent weeks. Prosecutors in the northern state of San Luis Potosi said the bodies of 11 men and two women were found Monday in two SUVs on the side of a road near the border of the neighboring state, Zacatecas. A hand-written message from a drug gang was found at the scene, and local media reported the message was signed by the Jalisco cartel.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [FOX5 News](#)

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(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – 'Mercenary' Hacker Group Runs Rampant in Middle East

(U) Washington DC – A research report published by BlackBerry Corp. indicated Saudi diplomats, Sikh separatists, and Indian business executives are among those targeted by a group of mercenary hackers. The group, known as Bahamut, was linked to mobile phone applications in both Apple and Google app stores. The apps, which included a fitness tracker and password manager, may have helped hackers track their targets. Two of the apps flagged in the report are no longer in the Apple App Store.

SOURCE: 7 October 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) Hawaii – Waikiki Man Charged for Cyber Attack Targeting Honolulu Police Department

(U) Honolulu – Christian Grado, 29, who was arrested in May for illegally carrying ammunition during a protest rally has now been charged with orchestrating e-mail attacks on the Honolulu Police Department's computers. Grado remains behind bars after he was accused of sending thousands of e-mails to a server used to help report and enforce stay-at-home violations. Authorities characterized the attack as an "e-mail bomb." Grado used a program to send one e-mail every 30-seconds for 20-hours according to a criminal complaint. Police are still trying to identify a motive for Grado's actions.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [Hawaii News Now](#)

(U) North Carolina – Shots Fired into Wake County Public Safety Center

(U) Raleigh – Around 3 PM Tuesday, Willie Lee Hayes Jr. drove by the Wake County Public Safety Center and fired several shots toward the building. Roughly an hour later, Hayes was arrested without incident. No one was hit by the gunfire, although Hayes faces multiple charges, including attempted murder, first-degree kidnapping, and possession of a firearm by a felon. Officials indicate they do not have a motive identified at this time.

SOURCE: 7 October 2020, [ABC11 News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Hundreds of Rightwing Extremist Incidents by German Security Services Revealed

(U) Berlin – Germany's first nationwide report into rightwing extremism in the security services has revealed hundreds of incidents across the police and military that contravened the country's constitution. The 98-page report stated that while the absolute figures appeared low compared with the number of employees in the security forces, "it can basically be assumed that there is also a dark field" of unknown extremists. The report comes after a series of recent revelations exposing racist chat groups and other activities within security authorities, mainly involving the police.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [The Guardian](#)

(U) Greece – Leaders of Neo-Nazi Group Golden Dawn Guilty of Running Criminal Organization.

(U) Athens – Leaders of Greece's neo-Nazi group Golden Dawn were found guilty of forming and running a criminal organization under the cloak of a political party. Following a trial lasting five-and-a-half years, an Athens court deemed that crimes by Golden Dawn members including murder, attempted murder, assault, and possession of weapons were not the actions of individuals operating on their own initiative. Instead they were directly planned and ordered by party leadership that employed violence to eradicate perceived enemies. Eighteen former party lawmakers, including leader Nikos Michaloliakos, a holocaust denier who founded Golden Dawn in the 1980s as a neo-Nazi organization, were among those found guilty on Wednesday. Individual sentences are to be announced in coming days.

SOURCE: 7 October 2020, [CNN](#)

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(U) Kenya – Seven Injured as Al-Shabaab Opens Fire on Mandera Bus

(U) Nairobi – Al-Shabaab attackers opened fire on a bus in Mandera injuring seven passengers. The attack occurred between Dabacity and Kotulo area, on a bus headed to the capital Nairobi from Mandera. The attackers are said to have entered the bus and ordered non-Muslims and Muslims to identify themselves, only to realize all of them were Muslims of Somali origin. The attackers then turned their anger on the bus driver demanding to know why he did not stop when flagged down. After the militants left the injured were rushed to a nearby hospital.

SOURCE: 6 October 2020, [Capital News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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